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HEALTH  
A - 9 OCT 1944  
C.R. 37

ABERGAVENNY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Council Offices,  
Monk Street,  
ABERGAVENNY.

July, 1944.

Mr. Chairman, Miss. Sayce, & Gentlemen,

As directed by the Welsh Board of Health, I am submitting a brief interim report for the year 1943 dealing only with essential matters affecting the public health of your district during that year.

I. BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

Total number of live births.....116  
Legitimate.....107  
Illegitimate.....9  
Total number of Stillbirths.....7  
Legitimate.....5  
Illegitimate.....2  
Total number of deaths.....103  
Total number of deaths of children under  
1 year of age.....4  
Legitimate.....4  
Illegitimate.....Nil.  
Live birth rate per 1,000 of population....13.8  
Still birth " " " " " " 0.83  
Death rate " " " " " " 12.3  
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births 34.5

II. NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Number Notified</u>	<u>Number treated in Hospital</u>	<u>Number of Deaths.</u>
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	12	6	"
Cerebrospinal Fever	Nil	Nil	"
Measles	6	Nil	"
Whooping Cough	16	Nil	1

Though the number of cases of measles and whooping cough notified is small, reports received from the Head teachers of schools in the area, shows that during 1943 more cases of both these infectious diseases occurred. In many cases, the diagnosis having been made when the first cases occurred. Subsequent cases have not been attended by a doctor; and therefore have not been officially notified. In neither case was the epidemic a severe one. It is satisfactory to note that no case of diphtheria occurred throughout the year.

III IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The campaign for immunising children up to 15 years of age was continued throughout the year. Schools were revisited; and every encouragement given to parents through the Health visitors; school teachers and posters and circulars on the subject.

Number of children totally immunised in 1943.....243  
(under 5 years of age).....123



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Number of children totally immunised in 1943	
5-15 years of age	120
Number of children <u>partially</u> immunised in 1943	9
Under 5 years of age	5
5-15 years of age	4
Percentage of children resident in area on Dec 31st 1943 total immunised	
Under 5 years of age	60.62%
5-15 years of age	83.17%

The above percentage were based on the figures furnished by the Local Food Office. In a number of the schools 99 or 100% of the children have been immunised; so that it is likely that the correct percentage is higher than that given above; the explanation being that a number of the younger children had been immunised before they became resident in this area and there is no way of ascertaining that number, with any degree of accuracy. Though the number of 1-5 years old immunised during 1943 represents a better proportion of young children, i.e. 2 or 3 years old, the response still leaves much to be desired.

#### IV. GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

On December 31st 1943 there were, in the Rural Area, 73 unaccompanied children, 7 mothers with 12 accompanied children, and 16 other adults. A number of the school children evacuated into the area in 1939 and 1940 reached school leaving age; and have now started work in their home towns or elsewhere. The general health of the evacuated children has been good; and the incidence of impetigo and scabies has been no greater in these children than in children permanently living in this area.

Hatherlugh Sick Bay, Abergavenny has proved a great asset in treatment of scabies and impetigo; and has considerably shortened the treatment and absence from school.

#### V. TUBERCULOSIS.

It is regrettable that there has been an increase in the case of Tuberculosis notified; and that a considerable proportion are glandular infections in children. Since this type of infection is due to bovine infection (through milk) it is obviously desirable that great attention should be paid to the health of the herds, and the cleanliness of cowsheds etc; particularly now such a large proportion of school children drink more milk than ever before.

Total number of cases notified during the year	15
Number of Pulmonary cases (including three patients at Mental Hospital)	9
Number of Non pulmonary cases (5 of which were glandular infections)	6
Number of Deaths from Tuberculosis	2
Pulmonary	2
Non pulmonary	Nil

#### VI. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

##### (a) Housing.

Owing to wartime restrictions as regards building and repairs figures relating to housing are much the same as last year.



Number of houses owned by Local Authority on 3rd Dec, 1943	70
" " " in course of erection (for agricultural workers)	8
" " " erected in 1943 - by Local Authority	Nil
by Private enterprise	Nil
Number of houses for which sanction has been given) but which have not been commenced owing to wartime) restrictions )	30
Number of houses inspected for defects	51
" " " repaired as a result of informal action by Local Authority or its officers	} 6
Number of houses in respect of which statutory NOTICES were served to carry out repairs	} Nil

(b) WATER SUPPLY

During September and October the Borough supply was augmented from the Tynywern supply to the extent of 2 million 413 thousand gallons.

A 1" pipe was laid from the Llanvihangel main to Cross-way cottages to supply the six dwellings there.

GOVILON.

Allws supply was overhauled and a new pump installed

PWLLDU.

A 2,000 gallon concrete tank was installed to supply the inhabitants of Pwlldu and the canteen connected with the open-cast coal recovery works.

A number of minor repairs were carried on through-out the District; and a satisfactory bacteriological report was obtained on samples from the Bryngwenin well which had been causing considerable anxiety owing to the persistent and unexplained pollution.

LLANARTH.

A 1" connection was taken from the tank at Llanarth Estate supply to the two new agricultural cottages. Forty-eight samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and analysis.

(c) MILK SUPPLY.

Examination of dairies and cowsheds was carried out; and thirty eight samples of milk submitted for analysis.

(d) MEAT INSPECTION.

Slaughter of animals is carried out at the Abergavenny Abattoir; therefore no inspection of carcasses now takes place in the Rural Area.





(e)

REFUSE COLLECTION.

No extension in refuse collection was made during 1943.

VII

SALVAGE OF WASTE.

The salvage drive continued throughout the year; and much help given by the Salvage stewards and members of the W.V.S.

The amount of salvage collected during the year amounted to:-

Metal.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons.
Waste Paper.	16 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons.
Rubber.	1 ton 2 cwts.
Rags.	18 cwts
Bones.	5 cwts.

I am,

Yours faithfully;

Olive G. Griffiths.  
M.O.H.

